

REMARKS

Applicants initially thank the Examiner with withdrawing the final rejection of claims 2-7 and 9-14.

Claims 2-6 and 9-13 stand rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ishikawa, U.S. Patent No. 5,838,833, in view of Inuzuka, U.S. Patent No. 6,784,891. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Independent claim 5 recites “a controller which *sets a size of the block of the data* to be compressed by said compressor *depending on an attribute of the data*, wherein the data attribute is color or monochrome” (emphasis added). This feature is not taught by the combination of Ishikawa and Inuzuka. The Examiner concedes that Ishikawa does not teach this feature, but instead relies on Inuzuka as allegedly teaching this feature. Applicants respectfully disagree.

Inuzuka discloses a method of data compression in which an inputted image is divided into a block unit constituted of a plurality of pixels for compression. Inuzuka, col. 9, lines 8-14. In Inuzuka, there are several parameters, including the size of the block and a color signal for each pixel, which may be configured for the data compression process. Inuzuka, col. 9, lines 14-23. Inuzuka's discloses one exemplary method for data compression that uses a block size of 16 pixels per block and a color signal for each pixel that includes two kinds. Inuzuka, FIG. 7 and col. 9, lines 14-23. However, as Inuzuka discloses in col. 10, lines 6-9 and 27-31, which are the excerpts referred to by the Examiner in making this rejection, the block size and the kind of analogous colors within the block are parameters which “may be set-up” and “may be modified arbitrarily” for the data compression process.

Although Inuzuka does not expressly specify, it is clear that these parameters are set by a user configuring the compression process of Inuzuka rather than the display control device 200. In other words, in Inuzuka, the user configures the parameters including the block size and other parameters to be used by the data compressor. There is no teaching or suggestion in Inuzuka of “a

controller which sets a size of the block of the data to be compressed by said compressor,” as recited in claim 5. Thus, Inuzuka fails to teach this feature.

In addition, in Inuzuka, the block size is not set “depending on an attribute of the data,” as recited in claim 5. In fact, the block size in Inuzuka is set-up along with other parameters such as the kind of analogous colors within the block and the number of bits for the color signal. The excerpts of Inuzuka cited by the Examiner states that these parameters can be “modified arbitrarily.” Therefore, the block size in Inuzuka is not set “depending on” any attributes of the data. Inuzuka thus fails to teach this feature for a second reason.


Accordingly, Inuzuka fails to overcome the deficiency of Ishikawa in teaching the claimed feature. Claim 5 is therefore allowable. All other independent claims recite similar features as claim 5 and are similarly allowable. The dependent claims are allowable for their respective dependencies from an allowable claim.

In view of the above, each of the claims in this application is in condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the outstanding rejection of the claims and to pass this application to issue. If it is determined that a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number given below.

In the event the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, applicants petition for any required relief including extensions of time and authorize the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to **Deposit Account No. 03-1952** referencing docket no. **325772034800**.

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Respectfully submitted,

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